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Dennis R. Weise
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/771,105 |
| Filing Date | January 26, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Dennis R. Weise |
| Group Art Unit | 2854 |
| Examiner Name | Leo T. Hinze |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number 5898-000159 |

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

| | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |
| | Remarks | The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. | Attorney Name Anna M. Budde | Reg. No. 35,085 |
| Signature | <i>Anna M. Budde</i> | | |
| Date | October 4, 2002 | | |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION

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Response
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/771,105
Filing Date: January 26, 2001
Applicant: Dennis R. Weise
Group Art Unit: 2854
Examiner: Leo T. Hinze
Title: Printing Process
Docket No.: 5898-000159

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is Applicants' response to the Office Action mailed August 26, 2002 in which claims 1-10 and 14-19 were rejected and claims 11-13 were withdrawn as directed to a patentably distinct invention. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments and comments.

This Reply is timely filed, as a reply is due on or before November 26, 2002 without extension.

AMENDMENTS

In the Description:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, in line 20, with this paragraph.

Please see Attachment Showing Description Amendment for a marked up version of the amended paragraph in which the insertion is underlined.

In many cases, for example in lithographic printing where the ink trains can be seven yards (6.4 meters) long or more, it can be more effective and more convenient to introduce the tack-reducing solvent at a point in the ink train before the ends of the plate or blanket cylinders. Introducing the tack-reducing solvent at an earlier point in the ink train may be more effective because it prevents increase in the tack of the ink in non-print areas all along the ink train from the point of introduction of the solvent, which prevents formation of tacky ink build-up that can break off and be slung by the high speed of the rollers to another point that could smudge the print or break the web. Introducing the tack-reducing solvent at an earlier point in the ink train may also be more convenient for positioning tack-reducing solvent delivery lines. FIG. 2 shows one preferred delivery of the tack-reducing solvent through the ink train in a two-fluid offset printing process that prints both the top and the bottom of a web. The ink train includes an upper ink fountain 60 and lower ink fountain 160, both containing ink, and an upper dampener 61 and lower dampener 161, both containing fountain solution. Ink fountain rollers 62 and 162 pick up ink from the ink fountain. Various rollers 63 to 75 and 163 to 175 transfer the ink to the plate cylinders 80 and 180, respectively. Rollers 76-78 and 176-178 transfer the fountain solution to plate cylinders 80 and

180, respectively. The rollers 63 to 75 and 163 to 175 include both vibrator rollers and distributor rollers in a configuration representative of commercial presses of this kind. The ink is finally delivered to the plate cylinders 80 and 180. Printing plates, not shown are clamped around the plate cylinders and provide an inked image that is transferred to the blanket cylinders 82 and 182. The blanket cylinders 82 and 182 are in rolling contact with opposite sides of the web, not shown, and the ink images are offset or transferred to the web. (In a press that prints only one side of the paper, the blanket cylinder is in rolling contact, through the web, with an impression cylinder on the other side of the web.)

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 7, 14, and 16. Please see Attachment Showing Claim Amendments for a marked up version of the amended claims in which insertions are underlined and deletions are bracketed.

1. (amended) - A method, comprising steps of:
 - (a) printing with a printing unit having adjacent, rotating ink rollers, said ink rollers having a central print area and terminal non-print areas, by applying ink to a first ink roller, the ink being transferred to the print areas and non-print areas of successive adjacent ink rollers and finally printed in an image on a paper substrate;
 - (b) delivering a tack-reducing solvent at a pre-determined rate to the non-print areas of a second ink roller, wherein the tack-reducing solvent is transferred from the non-print areas of the second ink roller to the non-print areas of successive adjacent